nationals of Indian origin to visit India with a view to boost India's exports to Portugal; if so, what additional facilities have been extended to them; and

(b) whether similar visa liberalisation facilities are proposed to be extended to businessmen of Indian origin belonging to different other countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Recently, there has been a general relaxation in our visa regime in regard to all foreign nationals of Indian origin, under which five-year multi-entry visas can be granted to them, subject to usual checks. This new dispensation is applicable to Portuguese businessmen of Indian origin as well.

Reducing Consumption of Petrol, etc. by State Transport Undertakings

2470. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce the consumption of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products by the State Transport Udertakings; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to rationalise the movement of vehicles and otherwise to cut consumption of these products without effecting the frequency and efficiency of transport services?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As part of national effort for energy conservation, the State Transport Undertakings have been advised to take necessary steps which include:-

(i) Establishment of model depots, with the assistance of Petroleum Conservation Research Association for imparting knowledge and monitoring the performance, with regard to the improved fueling practices, correct driving habits, maintanance for fuel injection equipment etc.

(ii) Use of speed control devices to limit the speed at which vehicle gives optimum fuel efficiency.

(iii) Fitment of fuel efficient primemovers suitable for carrying normal loads of buses.

(iv) Use of light weight bus-bodies such as of aluminium which contributes towards reducing the fuel consumption & aerodynamic styling of bus-bodies which reduces wind resistance.

(v) Arrangements by the management to regularly monitor consumption performance.

(vi) Refresher training courses for trainees in the transport undertakings for improving their driving habits and maintenance practices to achieve the maximum KMPL (Kilometres per litre).

(vii) Dissemination of information about the methods adopted by leading transport undertakings who have achieved good results in respect of maximum kilometres per litre.

The measures are designed to improve the fuel performance and thus conserve energy without affecting the operational efficiency.

Denial of facilities to people of Indian origin in foreign countries

2471. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANRAKANT BHANDRE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in the National Herald of 5th June, 1990, regarding the deprivation and denial of job, housing, land-ownership and education facilities to persons of Indian origin in Figi, Surinam, Gayana, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago;

(b) if so, what steps have been and are being taken by Government to retore and secure fundamental and